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ABRIDGMENT

OF THE

Statutes and Rules

OF THE

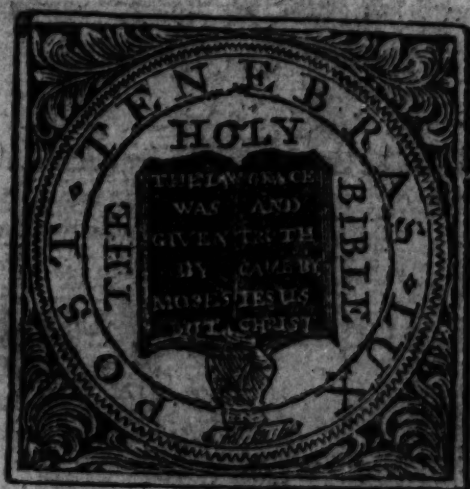
SOCIETY

IN

SCOTLAND

For Propagating

CHRISTIAN KNOWLEDGE.



EDINBURGH,

Printed by Robert Fleming and Company; and
sold by William Brown Bookseller, at his Shop
in the Parliament-clofs. 1732.

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An ABRIDGMENT of the Statutes of the Society for Christian Knowledge.



THE Society have several Times formerly published Accounts of their Management and Success, which have been dispersed both abroad and at home, and may still yet be had at the Shop of *William Brown* their Printer and Bookseller; and as a Supplement to these former Accounts they are here to set forth, both for the Assistance of their own Members, and for the Satisfaction of others, those Rules of Management by which their Affairs have with Success been hitherto conducted, and which are still to be carefully observed: Therefore, that charitable Donors may be further encouraged, these Regulations are here published, by which their Charity is managed.

I. The first Thing observable to the above Purpose, is the *Royal Letters Patent*, whereby the Society was first erected; the Tenor whereof follows.

Her MAJESTY's Letters Patent.

ANNE, by the Grace of GOD, Queen of Great Britain, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith; To all good People to whose Knowledge these Presents shall come; Greeting: FORASMUCH as We understanding
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the charitable Inclinations of many of Our Subjects, for raising a voluntary Contribution towards the further promoting Christian Knowledge, and the Encrease of Piety and Vertue within *Scotland*, especially in the *Higblands*, *Islands*, and remote Corners thereof, where Error, Idolatry, Superstition, and Ignorance do mostly abound, by Reason of the Largeness of Parishes and Scarcity of Schools, and for propagating the same in *Popish* and Infidel Parts of the World: And We having, by Our Royal Proclamation, dated the Eighteenth Day of *August*, One thousand seven hundred and nine, with the Advice of Our Privy Council, approven of, and recommended the foresaid charitable Design, and declared Our Resolution to grant these Our Letters Patent, for erecting the Subscribers into a Society and Corporation for managing the said Contribution; And now finding, that the Sum proposed for beginning this good Work is already subscribed for, and We judging, that Our granting these Our Letters Patent for erecting and settling the foresaid Corporation and Society will be highly conducive for accomplishing these pious Ends proposed, and that many others will be hereby induced the more chearfully to extend their Charity to the Use aforesaid: And also We considering, that the Subscribers to this Undertaking are diffused in several Counties and remote Places, so that it is not easy for them to nominate and elect the Members which such a Corporation ought to consist of, did by Our foresaid Proclamation judge it convenient, that the first Nomination of the Members of the said Society should be made by the Lord President, and other Lords of Our Council and Session in *Scotland* out of the Subscribers; and now the Subscribers, in Compliance with Our Judgment signified in the said Proclamation, having requested that the said Nomination should be in Manner before and after-mentioned: Therefore, and for the better and more orderly carrying on this good Design, We have willed, allowed, confirmed and established; Likeas, by these Presents We allow, confirm and establish the foresaid Power and Right of the first Nomination in the Persons of the said Lord President, and other Lords of Council and Session in *Scotland*: And further, We do make, constitute, appoint, and

and ordain the Persons to be named out of the Subscribers and Contributors by the said Lord President, and other Lords of Session, (and which Nomination is hereby ordained to be recorded with these Presents in the Registers of Our Chancellery in *Scotland*) to be an Incorporation, Society and Body Politick, by the Name of **THE SOCIETY IN SCOTLAND FOR PROPAGATING CHRISTIAN KNOWLEDGE**: Likeas We, for Ourself, and Our Royal Successors, by these Presents do make, constitute, appoint, ordain and declare the Persons to be named by the said Lords of Session, and recorded herewith in Manner foresaid, and their Successors to be elected in Manner after-mentioned, to be a legal Society and Corporation; and Grants unto them full Power to receive Subscriptions, Mortifications, Donations, Legacies, Sums of Money, Lands, Goods and Gear, and therewith to erect and maintain Schools, to teach to read, especially the Holy Scriptures, and other good and pious Books; as also to teach Writing, Arithmetick, and such like Degrees of Knowledge in the *Higblands, Islands*, and remote Corners of *Scotland*, and in other Parts above-mentioned; and to use such Means for instructing the People in the Christian reformed *Protestant* Religion as may be competent: And which Society are hereby ordained to have a general Meeting of the Members thereof quarterly at *Edinburgh* in the Town's Hall, the first *Thursdays* of *January, March, June* and *November* yearly, in all Time coming, at Three of the Clock in the Afternoon, and oftner when and where the Society shall think meet: And any Nine of the Members of the said Society who shall convene at the said Time and Place, are hereby declared to be a *Quorum* of the said General Meeting; but still reserving to the said Lords of Session, upon Application of the said Society, a Power to alter the *Quorum* as shall be found needful. And the Society, at their first General Meeting, are by a Plurality of Voices to elect one of their Number to be President thereof; as also a Treasurer, a Secretary or Clerk, one or moe, and other Officers and Servants, as they shall find needful, to continue till the first *Thursday* of *January* next thereafter.

or until others be chosen to succeed them; and upon the first *Thursday* of *January* yearly in all Time coming, (and in case of any extraordinary Emergent stopping them from meeting that Day, the next Meeting thereafter) the foresaid General Meeting is appointed to make a new Election of Persons to serve in these Offices, or continue the former, as shall be thought most convenient; and the President, at the Time of their Election, is hereby impowered to administer an Oath *de Fideli Administratione Officii* to the Clerk, and thereafter the Clerk to administer the like Oath to the President, and then the President is to administer the same Oath *de Fideli Administratione Officii* to each of the rest, before they act in their respective Offices. And further, We, by these Presents, do fully impower and authorize the foresaid Society, at any of their quarterly Meetings in Time coming, to assume into their Number and Society such of the Subscribers or Contributors (being Protestants) as they shall judge fit and qualified for assisting to carry on this Design; And likewise the said General Meeting are hereby impowered and ordained at their first Meeting yearly, to nominate fifteen of their Number to be a Committee, to meet at *Edinburgh* the first *Thursday* of each Month, and oftner as Need requires, in such Places as shall be agreed upon by the General Meeting; and the said Committee, or any three of them, at the usual Time and Place of Meeting, are to prosecute the Orders of the General Meeting, audite the Treasurer's Accounts, and ripen and prepare Overtures and Matters; and this Committee to continue for one Year; but to lay an Account of their whole Transactions and Management before the General Meetings quarterly. And further, the General Meetings are hereby impowered as they shall see Cause, to nominate fit Persons in any Places of Our Dominions, or elsewhere, for receiving Subscriptions, Money, or other Things contributed toward the foresaid Design, and to transmit Accounts thereof to the Committee at *Edinburgh*, or the General Meeting; and also, for laying out such Sums as they shall be intrusted with, and ordered by the Society to lay out, and for enquiring concerning the Faithfulness, Diligence and Success of the Persons employed upon the foresaid Fund, and for keeping

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a Correspondence with the Committee at *Edinburgh* about these Particulars, and what else concerns the foresaid Society. And further, the foresaid Society is hereby declared to be able and capable in Law to purchase and enjoy Lands, Tenements, Rents, Tacks, Liberties, Privileges and Jurisdictions in Fie and Perpetuity, not exceeding the yearly Value of Two thousand Pounds *Sterling*, and all other moveable Estates, Debts, Sums of Money, Goods and Gear whatsoever, and the Rents, Revenues, Annualrents and Profits of the Capital Stock to expend, ware out, and bestow for the Support and Maintenance of the said pious Design, for-propagating the Knowledge of Christ, erecting and maintaining Schools, and other pious Uses above-mentioned, as the foresaid Society shall see Cause. Likeas, We, by these Presents, declare this Society by the Name foresaid, able and capable by themselves, or their Procurators or Attornies in their Name, to prosecute, pursue and defend in all Courts and Places, before whatsoever Judge or Judges competent, all and sundry Actions, Causes, Proceffes and Pleas of what Kind and Nature soever the same be, and all and sundry other Matters and Things, to do in as full and ample Form and Manner as any others Our Subjects of Our Realm of *Great Britain*, or any other Society, Corporation, or Body Politick within the said Realm can do in any Sort: And grants and allows that the foresaid Society shall, and may have a common Seal, and that it shall be lawful for them and their Successors to change, break, alter and make new the said Seal at their Pleasure: And We grant unto the foresaid Society at their quarterly Meetings in all Time coming, and at no other Meetings, full Power to make such Rules and Ordinances, and to alter the same as they shall see most convenient and needful for the better Government of the said Society, and Management of the Affairs thereof, and the more effectual promoting of the foresaid Design, and to give such Instructions, Directions, Orders and Encouragements to these they employ, as they shall judge needful and reasonable; and We ordain the same to be observed by all concerned, under the Penalties therein imposed and enacted, providing always the said Rules, Ordinances, Instructions and Directions be agreeable,

able, and nowise contrary to the Laws and Constitutions of *Scotland* in Church and State presently in Force. And We judging it of great Import toward the right carrying on of this so Christian and religious a Work, that such as shall be employed upon this Fund as Teachers in any Capacity, be Men of Piety, Loyalty, Prudence, Gravity, competent Knowledge and Literature, and other Christian and necessary Qualifications suited to their respective Stations; do therefore peremptorily require and enjoin the several Presbyteries within whose Bounds such Persons have for the most Part had their ordinary Residence, and other superior Judicatories of the Church of *Scotland* to make exact Enquiry into their Manner of Life and Conversation, and strictly to try and examine their other Qualifications above exprest, as the foresaid Laws and Constitutions of *Scotland* do prescribe, before they be entred to such a Work. And We will and command, That none be employed in these Capacities by this Society upon the Fund above-mentioned, but such who being so tried and examined shall be certified and attested to them by the foresaid Church Judicatories. And further, We grant Power to the said Society, That upon the Death of any of their Number, or of their President, Treasurer, Secretary, or other Officers or Servants, or upon their malverling or not attending in their respective Stations, and their Removal upon these or any other just and necessary Accounts; in either of these Cases, the General Meeting may chuse others to succeed, and also impose and exact Fines, not exceeding Ten Pounds *Sterling* for Malversation, beside Damages to the Society and others concerned, and Ten Shillings *Sterling* for each Absence from their Stations without a relevant Excuse, of which the said Society are to be Judges. And We ordain and appoint, That the Books of the said Society be patent and open, that all and every one of the Subscribers, their Heirs and Successors, may have Access to see what Sums of Money are received by the Society from Time to Time, and how the same have been laid out, by virtue of these Presents, or any Authority hereby given, and to understand the Management and Disposition of the Revenues of the said Society,

ciety, and be satisfied with the same; and in case of Misapplication, any of the Subscribers, or their aforesaid, are hereby allowed and impowered to pursue and prosecute these guilty of the same, before any Judge or Judges competent: It is always hereby provided and declared, That it shall not be lawful to the said Society or Managers to diminish the Capital Stock that is or shall be subscribed for, or mortified; but only to apply the Rents, Annualrents, Profits and Emoluments arising from the same, without Prejudice always to them to uplift and employ the Sums to be raised from the Subscribers as shall be found requisite. And We do hereby will, command and require all Magistrates, Judges and Officers of the Law within Our Dominions, and others Our good Subjects in their respective Stations, to give all proper and needful Assistance and Encouragement to the said Society, and these employed and intrusted by them, in all Matters and Causes tending to the Furtherance of this pious Design, and that at all Times, and upon all Occasions when required thereto, as they will be answerable to Us. And *lastly*, We declare and ordain, That these Our Letters Patent and Charter, or any authentick Extract thereof, shall be good, firm, valid, and effectual in Law, according to Our Royal Intentions herein expressed, to all Intents and Purposes: And impowers the Lord President of the Session in *Scotland*, to cause timely Advertisement be given to the Members of the said Society, to convene the first *Thursday* of *January*, *March*, *June* or *November*, that shall be thirty Days after the Date hereof, at *Edinburgh*, in the said Town's Hall, or where he shall think most convenient in that City, at three of the Clock in the Afternoon: And the said Society are hereby impowered to cause publick Notifications to be made of this Charter, and the Powers hereby granted, with what they do upon the same, from Time to Time, in such Manner as they shall think most conducive to the Furtherance of the said Design. In Testimony whereof, We have ordained Our Seal appointed by the Treaty of Union to be kept and used in Place of the Great Seal, of *Scotland*, to be hereto appended, at Our Court of St. *James's*, the

Twenty

Twenty fifth Day of May 1709 Years, And of Our
Reign the Eighth Year.

*By Warrant supersigned by Our Sovereign Lady
the QUEEN.*

*Written to the Seal, and registred the Ninth
Day of July 1709.*

RON. CAMPBELL *Dept.*

*Scaled at Edinburgh, the Fourteenth Day of Ju-
ly 1709.*

RO. CAMPBELL.

The Society, in Pursuance of the several Powers and Purposes of the above Letters Patent, did at their first Erection enact such Statutes as then appeared to be necessary; and upon all new Emergents they afterwards added to these Rules, and further enlarged their Regulations: So that now there is no Part of their Business, but what is well guarded by proper Directions. Some of these relate to the Management of their Correspondents, their Schoolmasters, their Bursers, and poor Scholars and the Visitors of their Schools; others of them respect the Conduct of their own Members and Officers. And because it would too much swell this Account of their Rules, to set the same forth at large, and in these full Terms wherein they are at length enacted, together with the various Reasons, Motives and Occasions, wherewith they are further explained and enforced, it shall therefore here suffice to give only a brief Abstract of the statutory Parts of the several Regulations, together with their several Dates, which will direct to these Places of the Register where they are at full length recorded.

I. The Society's common Seal.

January 5. 1710. The Society having had laid before them several Bearings and Devices, that they might chuse
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which of them they thought fit for their Seal, and having considered the same, they did make Choice of this for their common Seal, viz. *A Hand holding out an open Bible*, with these Words written out upon it, **THE HOLY BIBLE**, and this Inscription above it, **POST TENEBRAS LUX.**

II. *Assuming of Members.*

As to the *assuming of Members into this Society*, (5. *January 1711*) 'tis enacted, 1^{mo}, That none shall be admitted Members of this Society, but such as are of the true reformed Protestant Religion, of a sober and religious Conversation, and of an humble and charitable Disposition, and who are Subscribers or Contributors to the Society's Fund. 2^{do}, That no Members shall be proposed or assumed, but at the four stated quarterly Meetings; and no Member shall be assumed at that quarterly Meeting at which he is first proposed. 3^{tio}, That out of these proposed, so many of the Society as have deceased may at the next quarterly Meeting be made up, by chusing others in their Room, and only the Number of two more may be added, until the total Number of Members residing in *Scotland* shall be made up. 4^{to}, That the Choice of Members to this Society shall be made by ballotting; and these who are proposed for Members shall not be acquainted therewith till after their Election.

June 2d, 1715. The Society do agree, That in their Choice of Members they will have a particular Regard to the Assistance they can give as Members of their Committee. *January 3. 1723,* it is appointed, That in Time coming none be proposed to be assumed Members, but such as the Committee believes will think themselves bound to wait punctually upon the Society's Meetings, and who shall come under solemn Engagements at their Admission to perform the same. *March 6th. 1729* The Number of Members of this Society residing in *Scotland*, shall for the future be 120. *January 7. 1731.* Each Member of the Society upon their first coming to the General Meeting, shall give their solemn Promise to be faithful in that Trust.

III. *Attendance of Members.*

January 3. 1723. The General Meeting order and appoint, That if any of these who have their constant Residence in the City of *Edinburgh*, neglect to be present at four General Meetings, one after another, without a sufficient Excuse, Letters shall be written to them by Order of the General Meeting, shewing them their long Absence, and that the Society have taken particular Notice thereof, and desiring to know if their Affairs can allow them to attend the Society's Meetings, and assist them in their Work; and shewing them, that at their Meeting in *January* next the Names of all the Absents during the preceeding Year will be openly read out, and that this Practice will be followed at every yearly Meeting in *January* hereafter.

IV. *Extraordinary General Meetings.*

January 7. 1720. The Society did, and hereby do empower their present and subsequent Committees, when any Thing of Importance does occur in the Society's Affairs, in the Intervals betwixt the stated Meetings, which they will not take upon them to determine without the Advice of the Society, and which yet cannot admit of Delay until the next General Meeting, to call a General Meeting of the Society to consider the said Affairs; providing always that they by their Officer give previous Warning to all the Members of the Society, who either reside in or about the Town, or who shall be at the Time occasionally in Town; and that they also make publick Intimation of the said intended Meeting in one of the Newspapers, at least six Days before the Time appointed for it, and with this further Provision, That there be present at such Meetings at least Eighteen, which is a double *Quorum* of the Members of the Society.

V. *The*

V. *The Society's annual Committee of Directors.*

August 13. 1714. The General Meeting approves their Committee's Resolution to meet for ordinary upon the first *Thursday* of each Month; which is the Day fixed for their Meetings by the Letters Patent, and no oftener, unless Business fall in betwixt these stated Meetings, that will necessarily require them to meet more frequently, in which Case the Society impowers and warrants the Preses of the immediate preceeding Meeting, or the Society's Treasurer, or Secretary, to call the Members of the Committee together, to consider of that particular Emergent. *January 7. 1731.* 'Tis resolved, That special Care be taken in the Choice of the Committee, and their Attendance and Management is frequently to be enquired into, and the Clerk is to mark the Attendance of Members, and at the anniversary Meeting yearly in *January* to lay an Account thereof before the General Meeting; And 'tis resolved, That every Year there be a new Election of the Members of the Committee; and that at least five of them be such as were not on the Committee the immediate preceeding Year. The Committee are to prepare and lay before the General Meeting the first *Thursday* of *January* yearly, a List of thirty Members of the Society, out of which List the new Committee is to be chosen, and none are to be put upon that List but such as have their ordinary Residence for the greatest Part of the Year in *Edinburgh*, or Suburbs thereof, and whom the Committee have Ground to expect can, and will, when in *Edinburgh*, attend the Meetings of the Committee, and Affairs of the Society, and be such as appear to have that Matter at Heart. And the Committee are to put a Mark after the Names of fifteen of the List, whom they judge may best answer the Design; but this is not to limit the General Meeting, who are to be still free to add to the List and chuse whom they please, and the Committee is to be chosen by two several Votes. The first Election to be of the new Members that are to be of that Year's Committee, and the second of these of the old fifteen that are

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are to be continued on the new Committee: That the Committee at their first Diet after the General Meeting in *January*, make Choice of one of their Number to be their Preses for that Year, who is to preside in their Meeting, and he with the Secretary are to take Care that their Orders be duly executed, and that the Society and Committee's Registers, and other Books, be regularly kept, and timeously fill'd up, and the Warrands thereof put up in due Order. The Committee are to use all proper Means to encrease and preserve the Society's Funds, and to lay out the same upon moveable or heritable Security, as they shall judge best, and to raise as they shall see Cause, and again lay out the same, but not to lay out any Part thereof upon irredeemable Security, until the Case be laid before the General Meeting, and that they agree thereunto, and to employ Persons to pursue and defend in all Causes wherein the Society are concern'd. *Item*, The Committee are to erect and maintain Schools, commissionate Masters thereto, and transport them from Place to Place according to the Regulations already made, and to supply the Schools with Books and Papers, establish, augment, and diminish the School-master's Salaries, suspend or depose them, and give them such Orders as they see Cause. *Item*, They are to maintain poor Scholars and Bursers so far as the Funds will allow; and in admitting of them strictly to observe the Acts of the General Meeting made thereanent, and to take Care that the Society's Stock be not encroached upon; and that only the Revenue, Collections and Donations, not designed by the Donors to be stocked, be yearly given out. *Item*, They are to use all proper Means for making effectual the several Particulars specified in the Commission of the Society to their Correspondents, dated the 4th *January* 1724, and for keeping up the Correspondence, that the whole Procedure and Management of the foresaid Committee in Time coming, as has been done from the Beginning, be duly and regularly recorded in a Book, distinct from the Actings of the General Meeting, and signed not only by the Preses of the Committee, but also by the Secretary or Clerk, to which every

every Member of the Society, or other Contributors, may have Access at Pleasure any lawful Day from Nine to Twelve Forenoon, and from Two to Four Afternoon. The Committee are ordained to shorten their Reports to the General Meeting in Time coming, and bring only Matters of greatest Moment, which agreeably to the Letters Patent and Rules of the Society, require the Approbation of the General Meeting into their Report, and such as are Matters of Difficulty for executing whereof, the Advice, Direction, and Assistance of the General Meeting are necessary, and even these are to be set forth in the shortest Manner the same can bear; but pointing to the Papers and *Sederunts* of the Committee, where each Matter and Thing is more fully insert. That if the Society at any Time desire a particular Case to be more fully set forth to them, the Papers and Committee's whole Procedure thereupon may be read from their Minutes or Records, and the Secretary and Clerk are to have all the General Meeting and Committee's Minutes, Records, and other Papers and Vouchers relative to the Affair, contained in their Reports lying upon the Table, to be look'd into and read when found necessary: Yet the Committee are to lay before the General Meeting a Summary of their several Determinations, betwixt the quarterly Meetings of the Society; and the General Meeting, if they see Cause, may consider the same, and stop the further Execution thereof, and the Committee are strictly ordained in all their Actings to proceed according to the foresaid Letters Patent, and are prohibited to do any Thing inconsistent therewith, or not agreeable thereto. *Item*, The Committee at their first Diet after the General Meeting in *January* are to make Choice of one of their own Number to be their Preses for that Year, who is to preside in their Meetings, and he with the Secretary are to take Care that their Orders be duly executed. That all the Society's Accounts, of whatever Nature, to be from henceforth brought in, be first revis'd audited, and examin'd by the Preses of the Committee, Comptroller and Accountant, who are to report to the Committee itself, and they being satisfied, these Accounts are to be

be signed by the Comptroller and Accountant, and the Committee are thereupon to give their Orders and Directions as they shall see Cause.

Anent lending of Money.

January 7. 1725. The Society judging it needful that before any of their Money be lent out to any Persons, they be well apprised of the Circumstances of the Borrowers, do resolve and agree, That no Warrant shall hereafter be given or issued to their Treasurer to lend out any of their Money, but upon the Days fix'd by their Letters Patent for their stated monthly Meetings, except there be at least five Members of the Committee present, all agreeing in the Sufficiency of the Security propos'd, and consenting to the lending of the Money; and that all such Meetings shall be only held in the Society's Hall, or Committee-room, and no where else.

Anent annual Contributions.

March 18. 1731. The General Meeting considering, that it is the Custom of charitable Societies in *South Britain* to take in annual Contributions, or Subscriptions for annual Payments, from Persons charitably dispos'd, and that it might prove for the Benefit of this Society to receive Contributions, or Subscriptions for Donations in the same Manner, because many who wish well to their Undertaking, and would contribute, are nevertheless not inclin'd to give (or perhaps cannot conveniently spare) a considerable Sum at once, and yet are inclin'd to give something annually; therefore the General Meeting have resolved and agreed, That they will chearfully, and with great Thankfulness, accept of annual Contributions, or Subscriptions for annual Payments, to be either wholly given out, or added to the Capital Stock, as the Donors shall think fit to determine.

Anent

Anent Lists of Schools.

January 3d, 1723. To the End that the Care of Ministers, Presbyteries and Correspondents, and the Diligence of Schoolmasters may the more clearly appear, the Society do resolve and agree, That at their General Meeting every Year in *March*, they will cause to be read over the List of all their Schools, and the Accounts of the Condition they are in; and the General Meeting do appoint their Committee to prepare an Abstract thereof, and when they want Reports from Ministers and Presbyteries, the Society appoints the Committee to acquaint the General Meeting hereof, and to propose by Way of Overture what they think necessary to be done in that Case. The Society for the more general Satisfaction of all Members and Contributors, do appoint and ordain, That a distinct and short List of all their Schools be printed immediately after the General Meeting in *March* yearly, and Copies of the said Lists to be given to Members and Contributors, and to be sent to all the Presbyteries in *Scotland*, by their Commissioners to the yearly General Assemblies of this Church.

VI. Anent the Treasurer's Office.

January, 5th, 1710. The Treasurer is obliged to attend the Meetings of the Society, and is to give Bond and Caution, obliging himself to make just and faithful Compt and Reckoning of his whole Intromissions. *Item*, That he enter into his Books all Money he receives from the Donors, expressing their Names and Designations, and where 'tis needful, the Parish they live in, and the Sum payed. *2do*, That when he receives a Sum as the Collection of a Parish, Presbytery, &c. he enter the same accordingly, conform to the Lists of Collection to be transmitted to him with the Money. *3tio*, That he enter all Annualrents and other Branches of Revenue uplifted by him, expressing the Paper and the Branch of Stock

upon which that Rent arises. 4^{to}, That he enter all Money debursed by him, expressing for what End, and what Voucher he has for each Payment. *March 3d, 1715*, The Treasurer is discharged to subscribe or receive any Security or other Write granted by or in Favours, or to the Behoof of the Society, which are not drawn and expedite by the Secretary and Clerk of the Society and their Servants, at the Sight and by the Direction of the Society or their Committee, or such as shall be appointed by them to oversee the same. *March 22d, 1722*, It is agreed, That the Treasurer's Cash Book be kept in the Form already directed and observed, that is, having three Columns for the Debit, viz. one for new Donations, one for old Stock uplifted, and one for Revenue received, and two Columns for the Credit, viz. one for Stock lent out, and the other for Salaries and other Charges paid. *January 3d, 1723*, That the Treasurer, Comptroller and Accountant, shall yearly sign the Docqueting of the Treasurer's Accounts. *March 16th, 1727*. When the Treasurer's Accounts are to be yearly stated and cleared, the three Columns of Debit and Charge being summed up and added together, and the two Columns of Credit and Discharge being also summed up and added together, and the lesser Sum subtracted from the greater, the Difference is the Ballance due by, or to the Treasurer. Next, The two Columns of Stock, new and old, uplifted, being summ'd up and added together, the Differences of these Totals shew what of Stock remains in hand, and not lent out, or how much is lent more than Stock, new and old, uplifted, which sometimes may happen, when a good Security offers. Then the Column of Revenue uplifted, being summ'd up, and the Column of Salaries &c. being also summ'd up, the Difference of these shews what has been saved and remains of Revenue unexhausted, or what has been payed out more than Revenue got in, which will occur when Interests are not punctually paid, and these respective Ballances are to be carefully and exactly transported to the proper Columns in the next Year's Accounts, otherwise the Stock and Revenue will be confounded, and marr the general Leger, and the Treasurer will either wrong himself or the Society. *November 5th, 1724*, The Treasurer is instructed to be sure to keep his

his Accounts of the Collections for Books and finall Schools distinct from their Stock, and that he be careful to return to the Stock whatever he has at any Time been obliged to borrow therefrom. *January 6th 1726.* 'Tis appointed to be a standing Rule in all Time coming to the Treasurer in his Management, that where any of the Society's Debtors suffer two Year's Annualrents to run in the third unpaid, the Society should call for the principal Sum. *7th January 1731.* 'Tis appointed that the Treasurer's Accompts be audited, examined, and laid before the Anniversary Meeting the first *Thursday* of *January* yearly, with a State of the Society's Stock and Revenue, and in Case the same cannot be so soon done, that they be laid before the next General Meeting thereafter. That Schoolmasters Salaries be paid only twice in the Year. *March 18th 1731.* A List is to be given to the Treasurer yearly, the first of *March*, of such Schools from which no Reports of Visitors are sent for the Year preceeding, that he may thereon stop Payment of Salaries to such Schoolmasters. *April 29th 1731.* That annually after finishing the Treasurer's Accounts, a Copy of a new Abstract both of the Society's Stock at Interest, and of the Interest resting at *Martinmas* preceeding insert in the two Inventory Books, be delivered to the Treasurer, for directing him during the current Year, and that the said Copy be signed by the Preses of the Committee. That yearly after clearing of the said Accompt, a full List be made of the Society's Schools, bearing the Name of the School, the Master's Name and Salary, and to what Time paid up, and the same to be signed by the Preses of the Committee, and delivered to the Treasurer, for his Direction in the Payments to them during the said current Year. / *Item,* When any Schoolmaster removes from a School, or is dismissed from the Society's Service, the Treasurer is directed to stop Payment of the last half Year's Salary, till Report be made to the Committee concerning the Books allowed to the said School, conform to the Regulations thereanent, mentioned in the Rules relative to the Society's Bookseller.

VII. *Anent the Sub-Clerk.*

March 18, 1731. The Sub-Clerk is to attend in the Society's Hall Week about by Turns with the Bookholder, from Ten of the Clock till Twelve Forenoon, and from Two till Four in the Afternoon, except when he is employed otherwise about the Society's Affairs. *2do*, That in his whole Service he carefully observe the Rules and Orders of the Society and Committee. *3tio*, He is punctually to attend all the Meetings of the Society and Committee thereof, and write their Minutes, and after reading the same in a following Meeting, to take Care of recording thereof, and that every *Sederunt* be sign'd timeously by the Preses of the Meeting and the Secretary; also that he write all Papers and Letters ordered by the General Meeting and Committee thereof. *4to*, That he write Returns to all Letters directed to the Society, or about their Affairs, as he shall be ordered, and dispatch such Returns without Delay, and he is to keep an Account of the Postage of all Letters to and from the Society and their Committee, or about their Affairs, and lay the said Accompts before the Committee quarterly. *5to*, When any Thing is referred to any Member or Members to be done, the same is to be timeously intimate to them by a short Note in Writing, and he is from Time to Time to keep them in Mind thereof. *6to*, He is yearly to lay before the General Meeting in *March*, a new List of all the Society's Schools, with an Account of the Number of Scholars at each of them, as contained in the latest Reports therefrom, according to Regulations of the General Meeting the 3d *January* 1723. *7to*, That Demands for Books to Schools be timeously laid before the Committee, with a Note when they last received any, and the Orders thereanent are without Delay to be given, according to the Act of the General Meeting the 15th *March* 1723. *8vo*, That he carefully acquaint himself with the Rules of the Society, and when any Thing is demanded contrary thereunto, he is to acquaint the Meeting of the same. *9no*, He is to keep all Letters and Reports from and concerning each School in distinct Bundles, and when they are laid before the Committee

mittee to mark the Time thereof on the Back of each Paper for the more ready finding them out. 10mo, That his Salary be not payed until it be found by the Committee, that the Records both of the General Meeting and Committee are filled up, and signed by the Preses and Secretary.

VIII. *Anent the Book-holder.*

November 4th, 1731. That so soon as the Treasurer's Accounts shall be revised annually by the Comptroller and Accountant and approved by the Committee and General Meeting, the Book-holder book and post the same as he shall be directed by them. 2do, That he compleat yearly the Inventory of the Society's Securities, after booking of their Accounts, according to the Rules thereanent, and keep the Committee in Remembrance of the Act of the General Meeting the 2d June 1715, with relation to the Society's Stock and Annualrents, and the Inventories of their Securities to be quarterly enquired into. 3tio, He is to be assisting to the Treasurer in craving Payment of Annualrents and other Sums due to the Society as the Treasurer shall direct, but not to meddle with any of the Society's Fund except upon the Treasurer's Receipts. 4to, Once at least every Week he is to call at the Treasurer, to receive his Orders, and he is to agent all the Society's Processes before the Courts at *Edinburgh*. 5to, In the Beginning of every Year, he is to write out a fair new List of all the Society's Schools, containing the Master's Names, Places they are in, with their Salaries, and to what Time paid, and when any Additions of Schools or Alterations thereof, or of the Salaries, shall be afterwards made, and notified to him by the Clerk or Sub-Clerk, he is without Delay from Time to Time to give a Note thereof to the Treasurer. 6to, That he attend Week about by Turns with the Sub-Clerk in the Society's Hall, the usual Hours, and in general he is to do whatever he shall be directed by the General Meeting or Committee, with relation to the Service of the Society. 7mo, His Salary is not to be paid till the Committee be satisfied that he has performed the Work laid on him.

IX. Anent the Bookseller, and Books to be given to poor Scholars.

March 15th, 1723. 1^{mo}, Before he furnish any Books to the Society, the Prices thereof are to be fix'd. 2^{do}, That he send no Books to Schools but upon a Note sign'd by the Preses of the Committee, Secretary or Clerk, which he is to keep. 3th, He is to furnish Boxes for packing the Books in, and Cords to wrap about them, and defray the whole Charges of Carriage and Fraught to the Schools, and get Receipts from the Persons they are committed to, or the Schoolmaster or Minister of the Parish where the Society's Schools are, and at counting produce the Order for furnishing the Books and Receipts as above, and all Charges for Boxes, Cords, Carriages and Fraught is to be stated to the Society, by and attour the Price. 4th, That he have a Book for the Society's Schools, and keep a Page for every School, marking down the Time of sending Books to them, and Kind of Books, and Number of each Sort. 5th, That the Books presently in the Society's Hand be delivered up to him, and he to give Receipt for the same, whether bound or unbound. 6th, That when Books shall be sent to any School, he send a sign'd Inventory or Catalogue of them, and when any miscarries, that it be taken Notice of in his Book. 7^{mo}, That his Accounts be adjusted once every Year. *June 6th, 1723,* That no higher Prices shall be allowed for the following Books in the Society's Bookseller's Accounts, unless he have a previous particular Warrant from the Committee before the Books be sent away, to state more, viz. Common Bibles bound 22 s. each, New Testament 7 s. Proverbs 10 s. per Dozen, Catechisms, 3 s 6 d. per Dozen, Confession of Faith bound 6 s. per Piece, *Vinceni's* Catechism the same Price, *Guthrie's* Trial 4 s. 6 d. Copy-Books 4 s. 6 d. all Scots Money, and Musick-Books 8 s. sterl. per Dozen. *Novem. ber 1st, 1711.* By the 11th Paragraph of the Rules and Orders for the Schools, 'tis agreed, that a new Bible be given to every one of the poor Scholars that are taught gratis at the Society's Schools, as soon as it is attested by the Visitors that they

they can read the Bible perfectly. *June 4th, 1724.* Paragraph 8th of Commission to Correspondents in *Scotland*, 'tis appointed, That the Visitors are to enquire at the Ministers and Schoolmaster, what Books are sent to the School, and to compare these with the Bookseller's Notes or Lists sent therewith, and to see that the same be preserved, and to enquire what further Books will be necessary for the School, and to take Notice, that Books be given to none, but such as are so poor, that they are not able to buy for themselves, and give Directions about the Distribution of them, and enquire to whom Books have been given, and to send their Report of the Premises once every Year before *March* at farthest. *March 16th, 1727.* When the Books sent to any School are distributed according to the above Directions, and before any more Books be sent to that Place, 'tis appointed, that the Visitors send up a compleat List, subscribed by the Minister presiding, at the Visitation of the School, and by the Schoolmaster, of all the Children that received the said Books, bearing the ordinary and particular Designation of the Parents, and that the foresaid Parents are so Poor, that they are not able to buy Books for their Children's Education, and if any of the Schoolmasters shall be found Guilty of distributing the Society's Books to the Children of any but the absolute Poor, such Schoolmaster shall be forthwith deposed. *April 29th, 1731.* 'Tis appointed, that when any Schoolmaster removes from a School, he leave what Books shall then be in it undisposed of, also these given for the Use of the Master, and that an exact Copy of the same be drawn up and signed by the Master and Minister of the Parish, or some one of the Correspondents, and afterwards lodged in the Hands of the Presbytery, to be preserved for the Society's Use, and that a Copy thereof be sent to the Society.

X. *Anent the Record of Donations.*

March 22d, 1722. That there be kept a general Record of all Donors, containing their Names and Designations, and Sums subscribed for; that this Record be divided into twenty

two Parts, according to the Letters of the Alphabet, each Division proportioned as to its Largeness, according to the Number of Surnames that may fall into the same. That in this Record a Space be assigned under a general Title for the Donations of such Persons as do not make their Names known: That another Place, or Division be assign'd for the Donations of such Persons who give a certain Sum annually during Life, in which the Commencement and annual Payments from Time to Time are to be entred out of the Treasurer's Cash-book yearly: That another Space and Division be assigned for Donations by Assignment of Sums, heritable or moveable, or by Disposition of Lands. The Accounts of these must be formed at the Discretion of the Book-keeper, and as the Nature of the Donation or Mortification shall require: That this Record have a Money-column for the Sums subscribed for, a Column for the Year of God in which the Donation is paid, a Column for the Folio of the Treasurer's Cash-book where the Payment is entred, by which, Donations subscribed for and not paid, will easily appear.

XI. Ament the General-Leger.

March 22. 1722. The General Leger is to contain the following Accounts, viz: 1. Stock Account, the Credit whereof to be extracted annually from the Treasurer's Accounts, 2. Cash-account, the Debit and Credit whereof to be extracted annually from the Treasurer's Accounts. 3. An Account of each Schoolmaster, titled with the Name of the Place and Parish where settled, and the Scholmaster's Name; this Account is to be debited and credited, with the Salaries due and paid from Time to Time. 4. A General Account of Charges and Incidents; the Treasurer's annual Cash-book is to be transported into this Leger in this Manner; all new Donations in one Line and Sum; all Sums of old Stock uplifted in one Line and Sum; all Revenue received in one Line and Sum; these three on Debit of Cash-account, and on the Credit of the said Account is to be entred all Sums lent, in one Line and Sum; all Salaries,

ries and other Charges paid in one Line and Sum. *Finally*, For keeping the Accounts the more compendious, let this Leger have two Money-columns on one Page for Debit and Credit. *November 4. 1731.* So soon as the Treasurer's Accounts shall be revis'd annually, and approved by the General Meeting, the same are to be posted accordingly in the Leger by the Bookholder.

XII. *Anent the Inventory of the Society's Securities.*

November 6. 1712. 1st, That two Inventories be made of the Securities taken for the Society's Stock, by the Committee and Treasurer, in the Manner there directed; and that all new Bonds, and other Securities taken by him, be annually added thereto; and that one of the said Inventories be laid in the Box, among the Papers. *June 2. 1715.* That the Committee meet four Times in the Year, *viz.* upon the first *Thursdays* of *February* and *August*, and the last *Thursdays* of *April* and *October* yearly, to go through the Inventories for the better securing of the Society's Stock, and more punctual Ingathering of their Annual-rents. *January 7. 1731.* That two authentick Copies of the said Inventories (*i. e.* both subscribed by the Preses and Secretary in Presence of the Committee) be yearly made up after clearing the Treasurer's Accounts, and the same is to be then compared with the Writs. *April 29. 1731.* 'Tis appointed, (for preventing the Trouble of transcribing the whole Inventory every Year) That annually after finishing the Treasurer's Accounts, a new Abstract be made both of the Society's Stock at Interest, and of the Interest resting at *Martinmas* preceeding, and be insert in the two Inventory Books; as also that there be added thereto an Abstract of the Sums gifted to the Society, but not yet paid in to the Treasurer, the Securities for which, are contained in the said Inventories.

XIII. *Anent*

XIII. *Anent the Society's Charter-chest.*

November 6. 1712. That the said Chest have three distinct Locks and separate Keys, and that one of the Keys thereof be kept by the Treasurer, and the other two by any two of the Members of the Committee for the Time, whom the Society shall name, and whose Names shall be recorded in their Books; and in case any of these who shall have the Custody of the said Keys, shall happen to be obliged to go out of Town, he shall deliver, or send the same sealed up to some other Member of the Committee, which Member shall present them to the Committee at their next Meeting, to be disposed of by them. January 7. 1731. That the said Charter-chest stand in the Society's own Hall, and one Key is to be kept by the Treasurer, and the other two to be kept, the one by the Preses of the Committee, and the third by the Secretary or Clerk, and the Chest never to be opened but by Order of the Committee, and a *Quorum* of them to be present thereat, and a Minute to be made thereon; and when any Writs are to be taken out of the Chest, the Taker out is to leave a Receipt for the same, bearing the Cause of taking it out, and Care is to be taken to have it return'd in due Time, or that the Treasurer have counted for the Contents thereof.

XIV. *Anent the Masters of the Society's Schools.*

November 1. 1711. 1. The Society appoints the Certificates from Presbyteries in Favours of Persons fit to be employed in teaching the Charity Schools to be in the following Terms. " At _____ the _____ Day of _____
 " Years, The Presbytery of _____ having had under their
 " Consideration the Desire of the Society in *Scotland* for
 " propagating Christian Knowledge, concerning Persons fit
 " to be employ'd by them to teach in their Charity Schools,
 " and _____ being propos'd for that End, who is a
 " Person well known to the Presbytery, and of whose
 " Piety, Loyalty, Prudence, and Gravity, they are fully sa-

" tisfied;

"tified; They did try and examine him, as to his Know-
 ledge of the Principles of the reformed Protestant Reli-
 gion, and as to his Skill in Writing, Arithmetick, and other
 Christian necessary Qualifications, suited to that Station;
 and he having given them full Satisfaction, in all these
 Particulars, they do judge him a Person well affected to
 the present Government, and qualified for serving the De-
 sign of the Society, in keeping of a School to teach to
 read; as also to teach Writing and Arithmetick, and for
 instructing People in the Principles of the Christian Re-
 formed Protestant Religion: And therefore the Presby-
 tery did, and hereby do recommend the said ———
 to the said Society, and their Committee, to be employ-
 ed and encouraged by them in that Capacity. These Pre-
 sents in Name, and by Appointment of the said Presby-
 tery, are subscribed by A. B. Moderator, C. D. Cls."

August 7. 1729. It is agreed, That the above *Formula* of
 Certificates shall only be required hereafter as to fixed School-
 masters, who shall be allowed One hundred Merks Scots
 of Salary, or above; but as to petty itinerant Schoolma-
 sters in remote Islands and Corners, whose Salaries shall be
 under One hundred Merks Money foresaid, the Society will
 accept of Certificates from Presbyteries in their Favours,
 albeit they bear not, that the Persons certified are capable
 to teach Writing and Arithmetick; these Certificates as to all
 other Heads being exactly agreeable to the foresaid *Formula*.

November 1. 1711. 2. The Masters are to be careful to
 train up their Scholars in the Knowledge of the Principles of
 the Christian Reformed Religion, by catechising them at least
 twice a Week upon the shorter Catechism of this Church,
 and explaining the same by the Help of some good Expo-
 sition, 3. They are to take particular Care of the Man-
 ners and Behaviour of their Scholars, recommending to them
 the several Duties of a sober and religious Life, and discour-
 aging and correcting the Beginnings of Vice. 4. They
 are to pray Morning and Evening in the School, and en-
 deavour to instruct and engage the Scholars to pray in
 private, at least Morning and Evening; and to beg a
 Blessing before, and give Thanks after Meat. 5. They
 are

are to take Care that themselves and their Scholars frequent the publick Worship on the Lord's Day, unless they be hindred from it, by their great Distance from the Church, or by bad Weather, in which Case they are to spend a considerable Part of the Lord's Day with their Scholars, in praying, singing Psalms, reading the Holy Scriptures, and catechising. 6. *August 3. 1732.* They and their Scholars are daily to attend the following Hours in the School, namely, from Seven to Eleven in the Morning, and from One to Five in the Evening, from the first of *March* to the first of *October*, and for the other five Months from Eight or Nine in the Morning to Twelve, and from One to Three or Four in the Evening; and if these Diets be found inconvenient, the Committee are to be acquainted thereof, and of the Reasons of them, that they may give proper Directions therein. 7. They are to teach their Scholars the true spelling of Words, and Distinction of Syllables, with the Points and Stops. 8. As soon as they can read competently well, the Master shall teach them to write a fair legible Hand, and also instruct them in the most necessary Rules of Arithmetick, but must not teach them any *Latin*. 9. They are not to demand any Thing of their Scholars, but to teach them *gratis* upon the Salaries allowed them; but if any in plentiful Circumstances do freely offer to pay for their Childrens Education, then the Masters are not forbid to accept of what they give. 10. They are to call over the Names of their Scholars every Morning and Afternoon, and to use their Interest with all concerned for obliging them to attend constantly at School-hours, and if any be missing, to mark their Names, with a Note for coming too late, and another for absent, in quarterly Bills, wherein also any gross Faults of the Scholars are to be marked, and laid before the Visitors, in order to their Correction or Expulsion. 11. They are as often as they can, to spend some of the Time they are not obliged to bestow on their Scholars, in catechising and instructing the poor People in their Neighbourhood, in the Principles of the Christian Reformed Religion. *July 31. 1713.* 'Tis appointed, That a Roll, or List of the Names, Surnames

Surnames and Designations of all the Scholars educated upon the Society's Fund, at any of their Schools, be exactly kept and recorded by the present Schoolmasters, and their Successors in Office in all Time coming; which Lists shall bear the Day and Date of their Entry to the School, and of their Departure from it, and what Length they then came in their Learning, and exact Doubles of the said Lists are to be yearly sent to the General Meeting in *January*, subscribed by the Schoolmaster of each School, and the Minister who presides at the Visitation of the School, that the same may be recorded, or kept *in retentis*. *March 16. 1727.* When Lists of Scholars are sent up to the Society, the same shall contain the whole Scholars that do attend the School at the Time; and the Visitors who attest and send up the said List, shall place in different Columns, a List of the Scholars whose Parents are capable to buy Books to them, and a List of others whose Parents are so poor, that they are not able to do that for their Children; and both the Minister presiding at the Visitation, and Schoolmaster shall particularly attest the Verity of these Lists; and if any of the Schoolmasters shall be found guilty of prevaricating in the Lists of his Scholars, with Respect to the above-mentioned Circumstance of their Parents, such Schoolmasters shall be forthwith deposed. *November 5. 1713.* 'Tis agreed, that the Society's Schools shall vaick only twenty Days, and that no more Play-days shall be given throughout the rest of the Year upon any Account whatsoever. *June 4. 1724.* 'Tis appointed, that the said Vacation shall be either in the Throng of Harvest, or such other Time as the Minister and Visitors shall think most proper; and if the Schoolmasters do at any other Time leave the School one whole Day, without first having the Allowance of the Minister, or of two of the Visitors, he shall pay two Shillings *Sterling* for each Day's Absence. *August 10. 1721.* The Schoolmasters should be at much Pains in learning their Scholars to translate the *English* into *Irish*, but not to learn to read *Irish*. *June 6. 1723.* That so soon as the Scholars begin to read the Catechism, the Master should teach them to understand their Lessons, by turning

turning and causing the Scholars to translate from *English* into *Irish* each Lesson before they enter them to another; and, when the Scholars begin to write, the same Method be observed in their Copies. *Item*, That all the Scholars be exhorted to learn to speak *English*, and that none who can speak it, be allowed to speak *Irish*, except when turning it into *English*, and that Censors be named to delate Transgressors therein. *January* 6. 1715. They are enjoyn'd to use their utmost Endeavours with Papists to persuade them to send their Children to the School, and to take double Care with such Children when they come, to inculcate to them the Principles of the Reformed Protestant Religion, and by all gentle Means, endeavour to persuade them to attend publick Ordinances, but not to use any kind of Compulsion. The Masters are discharged to beat their Scholars with their Fists, or Books on the Head, or kick them on the Body, but when they deserve Chastisement, they are to lash them on the Hand, or Breech with the Tause. *January* 7. 1731. The Schoolmasters Salaries are to be paid only twice in the Year. *March* 18. 1731. All concern'd are order'd to be certify'd, that (unless a Report of Visitors from each School in Terms of the Regulations, be transmitted on or before the first of *March* next to come, and thereafter within a Year subsequent to the Date of the last Report, and when new Schools are erected within one Year from the Date of the Erection, and thereafter yearly as above) the Payment of the Salary due to the Master of the School, as to which such Neglect shall happen, will be stopt upon elapsing of the said Year. 'Tis also further appointed, that none of the Schoolmasters shall serve by Substitutes, except in the Case of Sickness, or when the Society or Committee shall see Cause to allow the same. *November* 4. 1731. That the Treasurer shall not pay any Salary without a Certificate from the Minister of the Parish, or one of the Society's Correspondents near to the Schools, bearing their certain Knowledge, that the Schoolmasters demanding Salary have attended their Business as Schoolmasters in the Places appointed for them during the Time for which Salary is demanded. *March* 23. 1732. 'Tis further

further enacted without Prejudice to the Act dated 18th March 1731, concerning annual Reports from Schools, that Shoolmasters may not suffer through Visitors neglecting to do their Part, 'tis agreed, that upon the Master's requiring them to visite, if they delay the same, the said Master shall obtain an Attestation from the Minister, or next Correspondent, of his Diligence, bearing the Number of the Scholars, and their Proficiency, and that on Production thereof they be paid.

XV. Anent the Erection and Transportation of Schools.

November 1. 1711. The Society reserves to themselves the Power of removing their Schools, as they see Cause, from the Places where they may be erected, to other Places where they may be found more useful. June 4. 1724. Seeing the Society do not design that their Charity Schools shall supply the Place of legal Schools; they do therefore desire their Correspondents and Visitors before they propose a School to be settled in, or remov'd to any Parish, to acquaint their Committee whether parochial Schools be settled therein, as Law directs, and what Endeavours have been us'd for that End, and what hinders the Settlement. March 16. 1727. When any School is sought to be transported, the Presbytery and Correspondents shall make a diligent Enquiry into the Circumstances of the Place, where the School is, and of that Place to which it is requir'd to be transported, such as, at what Distance they lie from the Church, or Place where the parochial School is, or should be placed; what Number of poor Children, whose Parents are not able to board them at School, or pay a Schoolmaster for teaching them, or buy Books to them, if they be within two Miles of accessible Way to either Place, and how long the School has been in the Place, from which it is sought to be transported. Further, If any Parish where a Charity School has been settled for six Years, have not taken Care to settle a parochial School all that Time, that the same shall not be continued, but upon weighty Reasons to be found by the Society or Committee.

XVI. 4.

XVI. *Arent Bursers.*

The Society being desirous to encourage some of their poor Scholars who may be found to be of more than ordinary Capacity for Learning, that these may be a Seminary out of which Schoolmasters may be had for teaching Schools, and that they may in the mean time be assisting to their own Masters who have numerous Schools in teaching the other Scholars, and that the Choice and Maintenance or Premium of such Bursers may be duly regulated, the Society appoints as follows, *November 3d, 1720*, That none shall have Claim to the weekly Maintenance and Premium allowed to the Society's Bursers or poor Scholars, but such as shall be recommended and certified for that Effect, not only by the Schoolmaster who at the Time teaches him, but also by the Minister of the Parish within which the School is settled, and the Visitors of the School appointed by the Presbytery of the Bounds, which Certificate and Recommendation is to be conceived in the following Terms, *We* ——— *Minister of the Parish of* ——— *and* ——— *Visitors of the School of* ——— *appointed by the Presbytery of* ——— *and* ——— *Schoolmaster of the said School, do certify that* ——— *Son to* ——— *now attending this School erected by the Society for propagating Christian Knowledge, being examined by us, we find that he can speak the Irish Language, that he is now reading in the* ——— *and is one of more than ordinary Capacity for Learning; but is so poor, that he is not in Case to attend the School without some Assistance be given for his Maintenance. This given at* ——— *the* ——— *Day of* ——— *Years.* *June 6, 1723*, The above Certificate is to have this Addition, that he is above twelve Years of Age, and can read distinctly in the Proverbs, and has made good Progress in Learning of the *English* Language. *November 3, 1720*. The Parents of the said Children, or in case they be Orphans, some of their nearest Friends, shall give Obligation in the following Terms. *We* ——— *Parents or* ——— *nearest of Kin to* ——— *do promise and oblige ourselves that he shall wait on the School of* ——— *and duly and regularly*

early attend Gospel Ordinances dispensed by the Ministers of the established Church, and give Diligence to learn the Principles of the reformed Protestant Religion, and the English Language, and that so soon as he shall be found capable, he shall, if called thereto, be assisting to the Schoolmaster in teaching, or shall serve as a Schoolmaster in any Place of the Highlands or Islands of Scotland, according to the Rules and Orders of the Society, upon the Encouragement they usually give to others in such Places. This given at ——— the ——— Day of ——— Years.

The above Certificate and Obligation being sent to the Society, they resolve, that they will, as they shall see Cause, grant twelve Pennies Scots every Day, both Lord's Day and Week Days, to such poor Scholars, providing they attend their School the whole Week, and that they will further give a Suit of Cloaths and a Pair of Shoes at the End of two full Years Attendance thereon, and if they incline to continue a third Year to be further perfected, in order to be put in a Capacity to teach a School, and will in the mean time assist the Schoolmaster, in that Case, they are to get Eighteen Pennies Scots each Day they attend during the third Year, with a Suit of Cloaths and a Pair of Shoes at the End of that Year, or else they shall be boarded and maintained the said third Year at Raining's School in Inverness in the Term appointed for Raining's Burfers, as the Society shall see fit to determine. Likewise the Schoolmaster must give a Certificate of the said Burfer's Attendance, for regulating their Payment, which Certificate must run thus. I ——— Master of the Charity School of ——— do hereby certify, that ——— Son to ——— has attended the said School punctually ——— full ——— Weeks in this his ——— Year, since he was intitled to the Premium allowed by the Society to such as are in his Circumstances, as also ——— full Days, beside the full Weeks foresaid, and that he has carried regularly, and deserves the foresaid Encouragement, as witness my Hand at ——— the ——— Day of ——— Years. November 3, 1720. And because it will be needful that the foresaid Encouragement be advanced

weekly, the Society resolves, that when Youths shall be thus entitled to their Maintenance, an half Year's Allowance shall be lodged in the Hands of the Minister of the Parish, to be payed out weekly to the Schoolmasters, who shall keep an exact Account of their Depursements of the Money, and deliver the same to the Minister, to be transmitted to the Treasurer of the Society once every Year, before any more Allowance for that Year be demanded. *Lastly*, If any charitable Persons be inclined to maintain one Boy or more in the Terms hereof, the Society declares, they will undertake the Management thereof, and see to the Application of what is given that Way, according to the Will of the Giver, and that the Boys maintained by them shall be called their Bursers.

XVII. Commission to Correspondents and Visitors of Schools in Scotland.

THE General Meeting of the Society in *Scotland* for propagating Christian Knowledge, considering that they are impowered by the Royal Letters patent, to nominate fit Persons in any Part of his Majesty's Dominions, or elsewhere, for receiving Subscriptions, Money, or other Things contributed towards the Design of their Erection, contained in the foresaid Letters Patent, and to transmit the Accounts thereof to their Committee at *Edinburgh*, or the foresaid General Meeting, and also for laying out such Sums as they shall be intrusted with, and ordered by the Society to lay out, and for enquiring concerning the Faithfulness, Diligence and Success of the Persons employed upon the foresaid Fund, and for keeping a Correspondence with the Committee at *Edinburgh* about these Particulars, and what else concerns the foresaid Society; and finding their Business so much encreasing, that it will be necessary that more Hands be employed to assist them in their Work, and in particular, to enquire into the State of the several Countries demanding Schools, and to take the Oversight of the Schools erected and to be erected; and this being a Work which all good Christians should have a Concern for, and the Society being desirous of the Assistance of all whom God shall incline to concur therein, do hereby nominate, commissionate and im-

impower [*Here the Names of the Correspondents are inserted in the several Commissions, as they reside near the Schools, one Commission for the Bounds of each Presbytery where the Society hath Schools*] together with all the Members of the Presbytery of _____ and any Member of the Society that shall be upon the Place, to be the foresaid Society's Visitors of Schools, and Correspondents, for the other Effects above and aftermentioned. And in order to the more effectual Prosecution of this Christian and pious Design, the foresaid Correspondents are desired to meet at the foresaid Presbytery's Seat upon the last *Wednesdays* of *February, May, August* and *November* yearly, at Eleven of the Clock before Noon, with Power to adjourn themselves to other Times and Places as they shall see Cause. And the General Meeting of the foresaid Society appoints, that whoever is Moderator and Clerk of the Presbytery for the Time, shall be Preses and Clerk of the said Meeting of Correspondents, and, in case of their Absence, that the Meeting chuse others; and they recommend it to the Moderator of the Presbytery to convene the Correspondents, and propose to them what comes from the foresaid Society, or their Committee, and to write Returns thereto once every Year at least; and they do impower the said correspondent Meeting to receive Subscriptions, Money, or other Things contributed, and to transmit Accounts thereof to the Society or their Committee yearly, and to deal with charitable Persons to contribute; and they are desired to consider the Circumstances of the Country, and to inform the Society, or their Committee, where Charity Schools should be set up, so as they may best answer the Society's Design; and to have a particular Regard to remote Straths, Glens, and Islands, where parochial Schools cannot benefit the Poor; and also to advise the Society when their Schoolmasters should be removed to other Places, and when and where it is necessary that Salaries should be augmented or diminished, with the Reasons thereof. And seeing the Society do not design that their Charity Schools shall supply the Place of parochial Schools, they do therefore

desire their Correspondents and Visitors, before they propose a School to be settled in, or removed to any Parish, to acquaint the Society, or their Committee, whether parochial Schools be settled therein, as Law directs, and what Endeavours have been used for that End, and what hinders the Settlement; and this being done, the Society, or their Committee at *Edinburgh*, will give out Commissions for Settlement of Schools and Salaries, upon Report of the Correspondents, as they shall see Cause, and their Funds will allow. And to make the Correspondents Work more easy, they are hereby impowered to divide themselves into Committees for visiting the Society's Schools, and any Three of them are declared to be a *Quorum*, one of the said Three being always a Minister; and a Minister is to preside at the Visitation, who is to begin and end the Meeting with Prayer, and to give suitable Exhortations to the Master, Scholars, and others concerned. And the Minister and Kirk-session of the Parishes respectively, where the Society's Schools are or shall be settled, or any Baillie or other civil Magistrate, that shall happen to reside there, are declared Members of the said Committee for Visitation, and are hereby impowered to take Inspection of the foresaid Schools, and each of them to notice the Carriage and Diligence of the Master and Scholars, and report first to the Visitors, who shall report to the Meeting of the Correspondents, and they to the Society or their Committee at *Edinburgh*; and it is left to the foresaid Meeting of Correspondents, to appoint the Visitors out of the Persons above named, to fix the Time of the Visitations of the foresaid Schools, and give Advertisement thereof, which is to be once every Quarter, if it can be got conveniently done. And these Visitors, at their Diets of Visitation, are appointed, *First*, To read these Presents. *Next*, To require from the Schoolmasters the List of the Scholars at the respective Schools, and read over the same, and mark who are present, and who absent, and enquire into their Attendance, and see if the Master has been exact in noticing and marking the same according to the Society's Orders. *3tio*, To cause to be publickly read over in the School, the *printed Rules*

Rules and Orders of the Society. 4^{to}, To examine into the *Proficiency* of the Scholars, and the *Method* of the Master's *Teaching*, *Government* and *Discipline* of his School, to enquire into the *Time* of the Scholars *convening* and *dismissing*, to take *Trial* of their *Knowledge* of the Principles of the Christian reformed Religion, and to name *Censors* in each School, and give them *Directions*. 5^{to}, To enquire whether the Masters instruct the Scholars to read *English* aright, and teach them *Writing*, *Arithmetick*, and *Church-musick*. And in Places where *Irish* is spoke, the Visitors are to try if the Scholars be taught to translate the *English* into *Irish*, and to enjoin the Masters to cause their Scholars understand perfectly what they read, and that they proceed not to give out a new Lesson to their Scholars, untill they fully understand what was formerly prescribed; but they are strictly to *discharge* the Schoolmasters to teach their Scholars to read *Irish Books*. 6^{to}, If the Master and Scholars live at a considerable Distance from the Church, the Visitors are to enquire how they are *employed on the Lord's Day*, whether they do convene together in a convenient Place, and if the Master reads the holy Scriptures, and other good and orthodox Books to his Scholars and others of the Neighbourhood, and what are the Books he reads; and if *Papists*, as well as Protestants of every Denomination, and all Persons whatsoever, who are willing to *learn to read*, and be instructed in the Principles of the reformed *Protestant Religion*, be received and taught by the Masters, and if such as are poor, be taught *gratis*. 7^{mo}, If the Master do catechize publicly in the School, at least twice every Week, and pray with the Scholars twice every Day. 8^{vo}, The Visitors are to enquire at the Minister and Schoolmaster, what *Books* are sent to the foresaid Schools, and to cause *William Brown* Bookseller, the Society's Printer, his Note sent therewith, and all former Lists and Accounts of this Sort, to be produced and read to them; and they are to compare the Books with the Notes or Lists, and see that the same be preserved, and enquire what further Books will be necessary for the School, and to take notice that

Books be given to none but such as are so poor, that they are not able to buy for themselves, and to give Directions about the Distribution of them, and enquire to whom Books have been given, and what Use those who got them make thereof, and to call back such as are not made right Use of; and in case any Person be found to have sold their Books, to oblige them to refund the Price of the same. 9^{mo}, To take Care, that the Master keep a *Register* of the Names of the *Scholars*, expressing how many of them are Boys, and how many Girls, what their Age is, and mentioning the Time they entered to and when they left the School, and what they began with when they entered, and how far they were advanced when they left the School. 10^{mo}, The Visitors are to see that the Schoolmaster keep a *Journal* of what is done at each *Visitation*, and they are to read at every posterior *Visitation*, what was done at the former. 11^{mo}, The Visitors are to see that the Master and Scholars be sufficiently *accommodated* with an House, and other Necessaries, and to enquire into the Schoolmaster's *Grievances*, and examine the same, and use due Endeavours to remove them, and report to the correspondent Meeting. 12^{mo}, The Visitors are to see that the Schoolmasters keep close to their Work, and that no School do vaik above three Weeks once in the Year, and that, either in the Throng, of Harvest, or such other Time as the Minister and Visitors shall think most proper. And if the Schoolmaster do, at any other Time, leave the School one whole Day, until he first acquaint the Minister, or two of the Elders or Visitors, with the Necessity of the Occasion that requires his Absence, and have their Allowance, he shall pay Two Shillings *Sterling* for each Day's Absence; and the Master is discharged to grant any more Play-days in the whole Year upon any Account whatsoever: And in case he do otherwise, and neglect his Work, the Visitors are to acquaint the Society and their Committee thereof. 13th, The Visitors are to see to the Observation of the Act of the General Meeting, dated the 30th of November 1720, and Letter dated the 5th of April, 1723, concerning

beneficed *poor Scholars*, that none be recommended to the Society's Bounty, but in the Terms thereof, and who are above Twelve Years of Age, and can speak *Irish*; and that the Visitors take Care they have the *Premiums* and *Cloaths*, according to that Act, and see the Accounts of the said *Premiums* cleared and adjusted, and never to allow above 20 *lb. Sterling* for the Suit of *Cloaths* and *Shoes*. 14^{to}, The Visitors are to take Care, that all prudent Means be used with *Papists*, to induce them to send their Children to School, and to allow them to attend *publick Worship*, and that the Masters take all gaining Methods with the Children of *Papists*, and be careful to *instruct them in the Principles* of the *true Religion*; and if the Parents will not comply thus far, the Schoolmasters shall acquaint the Society, that they may give Directions what is to be done in that Case. The *Visitors* having done their Work, are to *report* to the *Correspondents*, who are also to keep a *Book* apart, for recording their own *Procedure* in, with the Reports of the *Visitors*, and what is done thereon, and once every Year in the Month of *January*, to prepare their *Report*, and send it to the *Society*, so that it may be laid before the General Meeting in *March* at farthest. And for the more certain and regular Correspondence, and better expeding the Society's Affairs, all *Letters* to the *Correspondents* are to be directed to the *Moderator* or *Clerk* of the *Presbytery* of the Bounds concerned, and also all *Letters* to the *Society* or their *Committee*, to be directed to their *Secretary* or *Clerk*, who are allowed to open the same, and compare what is therein, with what relates thereto in the *Procedure* of the General Meeting, or their *Committee* and *Reports* of *Visitors*, and be ripe to *report* the State of the Case to the *Committee*, at their first Meeting after the Letter comes to hand; and if they judge the Matter requires haste, to call a Meeting *pro re nata*, for considering thereof. And *Lastly*, It is desired and expected, that all the Persons above mentioned, intrusted in this charitable and Christian Work will consider the Importance thereof, and diligently and faithfully discharge this Trust, and use their best Endeavours for the *frugal Management* of the Society's Funds, Money and

Books, and herein to have the general Design of the Society in View, and also to deal with charitable Persons, who are in Case, to contribute their Assistance in giving Money, Victual, Clothes, Books, or other Necessaries for helping the Poor. And the General Meeting agree, that the Minister of the Place, where the Correspondents meet, or some other fit Person therein, be intrusted with receiving, and giving out the same, and keeping an exact Account, to be laid before the Correspondents, who are to send Copies thereof to the Society yearly; and if any of the foresaid Correspondents shall happen to be at *Edinburgh* when there is a General Meeting of the Society, they are hereby invited to be present therein, for their further Information, and more full Satisfaction as to the Management of the Society's Affairs. This Commission is to continue during the Society's Pleasure, and until a new one be granted and put in Place thereof, unto such Persons as the Society shall think fit. Signed by the President of the General Meeting, and by their Secretary, and sealed with the Society's Seal, according to Order. Given at *Edinburgh*, the — Day of — Years.

XVIII. The Form of the annual Report of the above Correspondents at the Visitation of Schools, which is to be laid before the Committee of the Society once every Year, before the Month of March.

AT — the — Day of — Years; this being the Diet appointed for the Visitation of the Charity-school at — in the Parish of — and Presbytery of — And the following Correspondents, namely, Mr. — Minister of — and — being accordingly there conven'd, the said *Quorum* of Correspondents did chuse the Reverend Mr. — to be their Preses, and — to be their Clerk. And the said Preses having begun the Meeting with Prayer, they caus'd to be read the Society's Commission to Correspondents, dated the 4th of *June* 1724, and also the several Rules and Orders for the Society's Schools, dated 1st *November* 1711, as the same are

are printed *anno* 1732, and the same being maturely considered, and particular Enquiry made conform thereto, concerning the Faithfulness, Diligence, and Success of ——— Master of this Charity-school, (since the Time of the last Visitation, which was upon the ——— Day of ——— Year, as appears by a Journal of the said former Visitation, kept by the said Schoolmaster, an Extract whereof was formerly sent up to the said Committee) or if the said School be a new Erection, and has not been before regularly visited, nor any former Visitation thereof regularly reported, let the above Clause run thus, (since the Time he first took up the said School, which was upon the ——— Day of ——— being ——— Months after the Date of his Commission) the above Meeting find Cause to testify as follows, *1mo*, More generally whether he be faithful and diligent, conform to his Commission, and the above Orders and Rules. *2do*, More particularly, whether or not he teaches any *Latin* in the said School. *3tio*, Whether or not he teaches the Scholars Writing, Arithmetick and Church-musick, or if he be excused therefrom as being an itinerant Schoolmaster. *4to*, What is the total Number of Scholars presently at his School. *5to*, That to show the Attendance and Success of the Scholars, since the last Visitation they have sent up enclosed in their present Report, an attested List of the Scholars conform to the Regulations *31st July* 1713, and *16th March* 1727. *Pages* 28, 29. *6to*, That they have compared the Books last sent to the School *anno* ——— with the Bookseller's List sent therewith. And that the said Books are carefully preserved, except such as have been distributed according to the Regulations; and that before they seek any more Books to the said School, they shall send Lists of the poor Children that received the Books formerly sent, conform to the Regulations dated *1st November* 1711, *January 4th* 1724, and *16th March* 1727. *Pages* 22, 23. *Lastly*, The Schoolmaster and Scholars being suitably exhorted, the Preses concluded the Meeting with Prayer, signed Day and Place foresaid by

A. Preses.

B. Clerk,

XIX. Com-

XIX. *Commission to Correspondents at London, January 23^d 1729.*

THE General Meeting of the Society in Scotland for propagating Christian Knowledge, taking to Consideration, that by the *Letters Patent* erecting them into a Society, they are impowered to nominate fit Persons in any Place of his Majesty's Dominions, or elsewhere, for receiving Subscriptions, Money, or other Things towards the Design of their Erection, who are to transmit Accounts thereof to their Committee of Directors at *Edinburgh*, or the General Meeting, and also for laying out such Sums as they shall be entrusted with; and judging it necessary that Correspondents be named at *London*, for the Purposes aforesaid, do hereby nominate, commissionate and impower [*Here the Names of the Correspondents are insert.*] with all the Members of this Society that shall be at *London* the Time of the Meetings after appointed; and all Contributors to the said Society's Fund, for Ten Pounds *Sterling* and upwards, to be the foresaid Society's Correspondents and Commissioners, to the Effects above and after mentioned, with Power to the foresaid Correspondents to meet together in any Place within the City of *London*, *Westminster*, or Suburbs thereof, at such Times as they shall fix upon, and their first Meeting is hereby appointed to be in the *Scots-hall* in *Fleet-street*, on the first *Thursday* of *February* next, at Eleven of the Clock *Forenoon*, and on the first *Thursdays* of *May*, *August*, *November* and *February* yearly thereafter, at the same Hour, and to change the Place of their Meeting, and Time of their quarterly Meetings, as they shall judge most expedient; and they are hereby also impowered to adjourn themselves from Time to Time, betwixt their quarterly Meetings, as they shall find needful, and to chuse their Preses, Treasurer and Secretary, who shall be obliged, and are hereby required to keep an exact Record of all their Actings; also, with Power to the foresaid Correspondents, to chuse Committees of their Number, for any particular
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Business committed to them, and generally, to do whatever may tend to promote the Interest or Affairs of the fore-said Society, and to act and proceed therein according to the Powers above-mentioned, granted to the Correspondents by the *Letters Patent*; and any Five of the aforesaid Correspondents who shall meet at the Times and Places appointed, or to be appointed by them, are declared to be a *Quorum*, and the Treasurer to the said Correspondents, is, once in the three Months at least, to remit to the Society's Treasurer in *Edinburgh*, what Money or Effects he shall receive upon the fore-said Society's Account, with the Names and Designations of the Persons from whom received, and the Society's Treasurer is to report to the General Meeting, that the same may be entred in their Books. And this Commission is to continue until recalled by the fore-said Society, at a General Meeting. And it is left to the fore-said Meetings of Correspondents, to condescend upon such Persons as they judge proper to be added to their Number, and acquaint the fore-said Society thereof, that they may have a Letter of Commission, which shall be as sufficient as if such Persons had been herein particularly named. This signed by the President of the General Meeting, and by their Secretary, and sealed with the Society's Seal according to Order. Given at *Edinburgh* the — Day of — Years.

August 6. 1730. The Society taking under their Consideration how often the Secretary to the Correspondents at *London* should send the Particulars of their Accounts with the Treasurer stated regularly, they agreed, That an Account of Donations at *London* in a Letter quarterly, with a stated Account each Time Money shall be remitted hither, containing the Amount of the Charges of Management from the Time of the last Remittance to that Time, will be sufficient to keep the Affair distinct both at *London* and here.

XX. *Conu*

XX. *Commission to Correspondents in New-England*, September 14. 1730.

The General Meeting of the Society in Scotland for propagating Christian Knowledge, taking to Consideration, that by the *Letters Patent* erecting them into a Society, they are impowered to apply the Rents, Annualrents, Profits and Emoluments arising from the Capital Stock, that is or shall be mortified to the Society towards the farther promoting Christian Knowledge, and the Increase of Piety and Virtue within Scotland, and for propagating the same in Popish and Infidel Parts of the World; and also to nominate fit Persons in any Place of his Majesty's Dominions, or elsewhere, for laying out such Sums as they shall be intrusted with, and ordered by the Society to lay out, and for enquiring concerning the Faithfulness, Diligence, and Success of the Persons employed upon the foresaid Fund; and also for receiving Subscriptions, Money, or other Things contributed toward the foresaid Design. And the Society being now unanimously resolved to employ several Ministers of the Gospel, as their Missionaries for the Conversion of Infidel foreign Countries, and bringing them to the Knowledge of God in Christ, and to make the poor Heathen People in *New-England* the first Objects of their Care in these Places, and judging it necessary to have a standing Correspondence in that Country for assisting in carrying on this Christian and charitable Undertaking: Therefore they do hereby nominate, commissionate and impower [*Here the Names of the Correspondents are insert.*] to be the foresaid Society's Correspondents and Commissioners in the said Colony to the Effects above and after-mentioned, with Power to the said Correspondents to meet for the first Time in any Place within *New-England* which the Right Honourable his Excellency *Jonatban Belcher* Esq; Governor thereof, shall find most proper, and whereof his Excellency shall be pleased to advertise them, at any Time within twelve Months after the Date of these Presents; and thereafter to meet quarterly upon the first

first Thursdays of May, August, November and February, at Eleven of the Clock Forenoon, in such Places as they shall judge most expedient, and to adjourn their Meetings to such Times and Places as they shall find needful. The said Correspondents are also hereby impowered to chuse their own Preses, Treasurer and Secretary, and likewise to chuse Committees of their Number for any particular Business committed to them, and generally to do whatever may tend to promote the Interest and Affairs of the foresaid Society, and to act and proceed therein according to the Powers above-mentioned, granted to Correspondents by the *Letters Patent*, and any three of the aforesaid Correspondents, who shall meet at the Times and Places appointed, or to be appointed by them, are declared to be a *Quorum*; and they are hereby required to keep an exact Record of all their Actings, and to transmit an Account thereof at least once in the Year to the said Society, or their Committee at *Edinburgh*, particularly an Account of their laying out such Sums as they shall be intrusted with, and ordered by the Society to lay out; an Account also of the Faithfulness, Diligence and Success of such Persons as shall have the Society's Commission to be employed upon the foresaid Fund; and also of all the Monies, or other Effects that their Treasurer shall receive upon the Society's Account, with the Names and Designations of the Donors, that the same may be entred in their Books; and this Commission is to continue until recalled by the Society at a General Meeting. And it is further desired of the foresaid Correspondents, to consider at their quarterly Meetings what other Persons are by them judged proper to be added to their Number, and to acquaint the Society thereof, that they may get Letters of Commission, which shall be as sufficient as if such Persons had been at first herein particularly named and designed. This signed by the President and Secretary of the General Meeting, and sealed with the Society's Seal according to Order. Given at *Edinburgh* the 14th Day of September 1730.

XXI. *Commission and Instructions to Missionaries in New-England, November 5. 1730.*

The General Meeting of the Society in *Scotland* for propagating Christian Knowledge, taking to their serious Consideration the lamentable Circumstances of the Heathen Nations upon the Borders of *New-England* in *America*, for Want of the Light of the blessed Gospel of our glorious Redeemer the Lord Jesus Christ; and being impowered by Royal *Letters Patent* under the Great Seal, to use such Means for instructing People in the Christian reformed Protestant Religion as may be competent, not only within *Scotland*, especially in the Highlands, Islands and remote Corners thereof, but also in Popish and Infidel Parts of the World; and having an earnest Desire to contribute some Assistance that Way, being in Part enabled to set about this excellent Design by the pious Mortification of the late reverend and charitable Doctor *Daniel Williams* Minister of the Gospel of the Presbyterian Persuasion at *Hogsden* near *London*, they did nominate several Persons to be their Correspondents in *New-England*, with certain Powers specified in their Commission; and by their Minute, dated the 5th of *November 1730*, did further empower their Correspondents to grant and subscribe this present Commission: And the said Correspondents having sufficient Certificates of the Piety, Learning, and other necessary Qualifications of you Mr. _____ Minister of the Gospel, do in Name, and by the Authority of the foresaid Society, nominate, commissionate, and appoint you _____ to be one of that Society's Missionaries for preaching to the foresaid Heathen Nations, lying adjacent to *New-England*, and instructing them in the Principles of the Christian reformed Protestant Religion; and in Order thereunto, not only to preach and catechise, but also to keep a School for teaching the foresaid Heathens to read the holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testament, and other good and pious Books, Writing and Arithmetick, to under-

understand and speak the *English* Language, and to direct them how to pray, and to carry as becometh the Gospel. And when you judge them fit to receive the Seals of the Covenant of Grace, you are to administer the same unto them, and use your best Endeavours to confirm such in the Truth of our holy Religion, and engage them to persevere therein. This Commission is to continue during the said Society's Pleasure, and until recalled by them or their said Correspondents, in whose Name these Presents are signed at—the—Day of—Years by

XXII. *Letters of Instructions to the Missionaries.*

Reverend Sir,

There is herewith given a Commission containing your Work, in Prosecution whereof you are to act conscientiously depending upon God for Counsel, Strength, and Furniture, and for Success therein. Let the Glory of God, and the Salvation of precious Souls be your chief Motive. You are employed upon a very important and glorious Work, and you much need the Help of the Spirit of God therein. Remember your blessed Redeemer's Instruction to his Disciples, *Matth. x. 16.* You must lay your Account with Difficulties and Discouragements; and therefore should study Patience, Self-denial, Humility and Forbearance, and carry with all Meekness and Love towards these with whom you have to do. Let your Deportment and Management be such, as they may see that you seek their Good, and take the most gaining Methods with them. You are frequently, at least twice every Year, to report an Account of your Diligence and Success to the foresaid Society's Correspondent meeting at ———— and procure from them a Certificate, in order to the Payment of your Salary, which for the first Year is what the said Correspondents shall condescend on; but thereafter the same will be augmented, according to the Letter sent to the Correspondents the 14th of *September 1730.* and it will be punctually paid unto you, upon your send-

ing

ing hither the foresaid Certificate, signed in Name of the
said Society and their Correspondents in New-England,
by,

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